



FIRST AND BEST IN ILLUSTRATED HORROR

CREEPY
#39

MAY '71

A WARREN
MAGAZINE

POC
60¢

WHERE SATAN DWELLS

Featuring
your
favorite
comic
character
...on page 6

Plus...

MAD JACK'S GIRL

A diabolical
tale of
teenage terror
on the streets.
...see page 59





CREEPY'S LOATHSOME LORE!

I NOTICED IN MY LOATHSOME LIBRARY THAT OUR FRIGHT-FILLED FOREBEARS HAD THE EYE-DEA THAT LOOKS COULD KILL! LET'S TAKE A BUZZARDS-EYE VIEW OF SOME GROOVY HISTORICAL GRUE AND (REH, HER) SEE, WITH...

THE EVIL EYE!

THE LEGEND OF THE SUMERIAN HERO, GUNGAMUSH, RELATES HOW HE ENCOUNTERED SCORPION-MEN WHO'S GLANCE WAS FATAL!



THE IMMORTAL POET, LORD BYRON, WAS FEARED TO HAVE THE MEANS TO HARM OTHERS, SOLELY THROUGH HIS GAZE!



CURIOUSLY, IN ANCIENT GREECE, LIKENESSSES OF THE MEDUSA WERE USED AS CHARMS TO FIGHT THE EVIL-EYE, RATHER THAN TO TURN MEN TO STONE.



THE BELIEF IN THE POWER OF THE EYE PERSISTS, EVEN TODAY. HOWEVER, IN MODERN TIMES, THE "WICKED WINKERS" HAVE COME TO SYMBOLIZE THE EYE OF PROVIDENCE. IN FACT THE U.S. USES SUCH A DESIGN ON THE GREAT SEAL, SEEN ON ANY ONE DOLLAR BILL!



CREEPY

NO. 39

1971
MAY

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CREEPY, PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO., INC. No. 39, MAY [1971]. PRICE 50¢ PER COPY. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: 6 ISSUES FOR \$3.00. IN THE U.S. & ELSEWHERE, \$4.50. EXTRAS: \$1.00. 50¢ EXTRA FOR AIR MAIL. PRIVELEGES FOR MAILING IN THE U.S. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. PRINTED IN U.S.A. ENTIRE CONTENTS COPYRIGHTED © 1971 BY WARREN PUBLISHING CO. NOTHING MAY BE PRINTED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE PUBLISHER. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE INVITED PROVIDED THAT RETURN POSTAGE AND ENVELOPE ARE ENCLOSED. OTHERWISE MATERIAL CANNOT BE RETURNED. NO RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE ACCEPTED FOR UNCONSOLIDATED MATERIAL.

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"Issue #37, Pg. 67 in color was SENSATIONAL!"

I say that Israel Oppenheimer is completely wrong (Re Creepy #37) It stories are too long, that's when they get boring. Also, I think most people like horror stories, not comedy stories in a tremendous good mag like Creepy.

DAIN STIMITS
Lafayette, Colorado

If I remember correctly Dain, he didn't mention anything about putting comedy stories in our mag. What he did say was, He'd like to see more stories with CON-TINUING characters. Confidentially, we're getting more and more inundated from readers expressing the same request. Which resulted in our instituting a policy whereby the stories will be longer and depending upon the rules of future requests, we'll begin to introduce other continuing characters.

I really enjoyed issue #37 of Creepy. The cover, art and scripting was great! Ernie Colón's art amazed me in TENDER MACHINE 10061. It was superb! The real reason for this letter is, I suppose you know of Vampirilla's new one-hitting series and Berrie's continuing character, October War. So, dear unk, why don't you hit back? Why don't you begin a continuing character sometime on the order of Conan or Thanos. Or even grab Sork back, you remember her, don't you? The character from the story, BEAST IN THE SWAMP. How about it, unk?

STEVEN HART
Saddle Brook, N.J.

Well, Steve, ole man, your ideas has merit. Keep watching and one of these days you just might hold a mighty and bold new continuing character who'll equal, if not surpass the adventures of CONAN, THANOS, or SOBIR. Scripts are being written on her now. Any guesses on who'll script the series and who'll do the illustrations?

I'm a new reader of Creepy mag and was very impressed when I read issue #37. The art was excellent as well as the stories. But I didn't like TENDER MACHINE 10061. I never was much for sci-fi, and this story's art was a bit too confusing to follow. However, as soon as I read the pages set aside for short stories sent in by readers, I flipped! The layout of those pages plus the designing seemed so different and elegant compared with the rest of the book. I intend to be a permanent fan of Creepy and

after writing this letter, I even wrote a short story which I'm also enclosing. By the way, that jelly belly cousin of yours sells his issues for 10¢ less than you. Did you know that?

BILLY RANO
Philadelphia, Pa.

That jelly belly cousin of mine had better not be selling his rag mags at a cheaper price (even though they are cheap). And if he is selling his cheap rags at a dime less, I want to know where. On second thought, Billy, you're a new reader to my book, and you probably have an old issue of ole fruit-faced rag. That may explain it. By the way, Billy, boy . . . look for your story on the fantabulous pages of this issue. It's been slightly edited, but only for the better. However, it was still a pretty interesting yarn and well written. Keep up the good work.

I read Creepy all the time and in issue #37 I read a letter sent in by Michael Long saying, "try to get some real bloody stories into your mag." Well, I strongly agree. As he says, "the bloodier, the better!" Now, I'm not saying it isn't good now, but what I am saying is, it could get better by getting bloodier. Do you agree?

JAMES DISALLE
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Well now, James, m'boy we try to please most of our readers, but in this bloody case, I'm wondering how our other readers feel about all this gore you and Mike are asking for.

All of your mags are good, but in issue #37 you outdid yourself. I especially liked page 57 which was in color. Your shifting from horror to sci-fi is sort of sad. Why don't you have some more stories about vampires and werewolves? You should make a book cover so we fans could put our Creepy copies into it. Have a like a silicon notebook with rings in it or something.

A book in which we can add Creepy's each month they come out. A sort of binder to keep and protect them. What do you think about that, unk?

DOUG SOBOLEWSKI
Zion, IL

I think it's cool, Doug. And your idea is now being considered. As you other readers out there with ideas and suggestions? If so, let's hear 'em,

I would like to suggest, dear uncle Creepy, that you and your jelly belly cousin refrain from interrupting the end of one story and the beginning of another with so many ads. Why don't you, Jim, and Vampi too, put all of your ads

in the back of your books? It's so distracting to finish up a good yarn, eager to turn to the next only to continually flip, and flip until you get to the next story. That's frustrating. I usually skip over them, anyway. Thus, if there's anything I want to order, I go back to the ads. Try to remedy this annoying break-up of your continuity of excellent stories and artwork.

ULRICA BLANKS
Jamaica, L.I., N.Y.

Okay, Rica. Your ole unk will see what he can do about this break-up of continuity from story to story. How do you other readers feel about that? Let's hear from you.

WRITE ON!

Keep those letters coming right on into

DEAR UNCLE CREEPY

c/o Warren Publishing
145 East 32nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10016

Every letter is carefully read and as many as possible are printed in each issue! So . . .
WRITE ON, fella! •

SUBSCRIBE!

BE THE ENVY OF THE GANG!
BE THE ENVY OF THE ENTIRE WORLD!
DO IT NOW—OR ELSE!



CREEPY

ERBIE

VAMPIRELLA

FAMOUS MONSTERS

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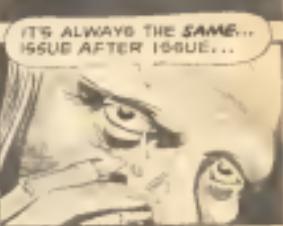
(IN CANADA, AND OUTSIDE THE US, PLEASE ADD \$1.00 TO ALL RATES)
MAIL TO WARREN PUBLISHING CO. 145 E. 32nd ST. NEW YORK, NY 10016

ECHH... IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN
FEAR FIENDS... TIME TO GO
ROMPING THROUGH THE
GRAVEYARD IN SEARCH FOR
ANOTHER MACABRE TALE
OF YORE AND GORE! HEH
HEH... THIS H'YAR ART I'M
HOLDING IS THE PATHETIC
PENCILS FOR THE MILDED
MORBID MESS YOU'RE
ABOUT TO FEED ON... SO
YANK YER COFFIN A BIT
CLOSER TO THE PAGE AN'
WELL DIG IN TO THIS
SCRUMPTIOUS SCRAP
OF SUCCULENT SOP...
HEH HEH...



IT ALL STARTS OFF ON A
DRIZZLY RAINY NIGHT
WHEN A PILE OF MAGGOTY
WITHERED BONES... WHEN
A PILE OF WHEN-OH,
WHAT'S THE USE ANYMORE?

IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME...
ISSUE AFTER ISSUE...



IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME...
ALL I EVER GET TO DO IS
INTRODUCE THESE
STORIES... BIG DEAL!
ALL THE TIME... ALL I
EVER DO IS TELL
STORIES ABOUT HOW
OTHER PEOPLE HAVE
ENJOINED TERRIFYING
AND HORRIBLE
EXPERIENCES! I
NEVER GET TO DO
ANYTHING MYSELF
... NEVER!

OH I'M NOT
KICKING THE
JOB... IT'S NOT
BAD! PAY'S WELL,
ENOUGH TO KEEP
ME IN BAT
FLESH AND
SPIDER'S MILK...
BUT... BUT THAT'S
NOT ENOUGH!
I NEED SOME
ACTION ONCE
IN A BLUE
MOON!

I NEED TO GET AWAY FROM
IT ALL! HOW CAN THEY
EXPECT A GHOUL TO DO THE
SAME THING MONTH AFTER
MONTH WITHOUT GETTING
BORED? WELL THAT'S IT, I'M
GOIN' OUT AN' HAVE A REAL
ADVENTURE MYSELF FOR A
CHANGE...



UNCLE CREEPY STARS IN WHERE SATAN DWELLS ...

ART BY SAL TRAPANI/STORY BY AL HEWELSON

IT'S SO WEIRD THOUGH... IT'S SO EASY IN THE BOOKS, AND IN THE STORIES...
INTRODUCE... BUT IN REAL LIFE, HOW...
HOW DO I GO ABOUT IT... HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN SOMETHING THAT WOULD...
BE AN ADVENTURE?

WELL... THERE'S NOT VERY MUCH I CAN DO, EXCEPT
JUST WALK AROUND UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS...
SOMETHING'S BOUND TO EVENTUALLY!



I'VE BEEN WALKING
FOR HOURS, AND
NOTHING'S HAPPENED!
UNLESS I RUN INTO
SOMETHING SOON...
I'M AFRAID I'LL BE
DOOMED TO A LIFE
OF MEDIOCRITY, LIKE
...A NOBODY!



WHAT
ON EARTH
I'VE NEVER
SEEN THIS
LITTLE BOOK-
SHOP BEFORE...
IT'S IN THE
MIDDLE OF
NOWHERE!

...JUST WHAT IS IT YOU'RE
LOOKING FOR, SIR?... A
LITTLE POE, PERHAPS? OR
MAYBE SOME WHEATLEY
OR BLOCH? ARE YOU
INTERESTED IN THE
MASTER... H.P.
LOVECRAFT?



NO... NOT TODAY!
I'M LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING... WELL
SOMETHING A BIT
DIFFERENT!

SOMETHING DIFFERENT YOU SAY... WELL,
HERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT, SIR!
THEY'RE MAGAZINES OF THE MACABRE
AND... WAIT... WAIT A MINUTE! AREN'T
YOU... AREN'T YOU THE HOST OF ONE OF
THESE MAGAZINES... CREEPY?



YES... YES, I AM... SO
YOU SEE, I'M LOOKING
FOR SOMETHING
THAT'S...



SAY NO MORE, SIR... SAY NO MORE! I HAVE
JUST THE THING FOR YOU... JUST THE

THING!

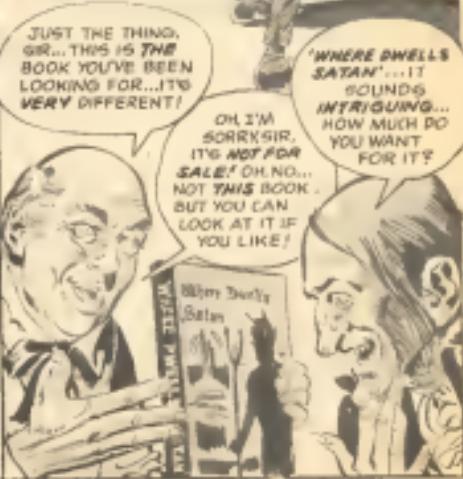
VERY ODD... THIS
SITTLER OUT OF THE
WAY PLACE... OPEN
AT FIVE IN THE
MORNING!



JUST THE THING,
SIR... THIS IS THE
BOOK YOU'VE BEEN
LOOKING FOR... IT'S
VERY DIFFERENT!

OH, I'M
SORRY SIR,
IT'S NOT FOR
SALE! OH NO...
NOT THIS BOOK.
BUT YOU CAN
LOOK AT IT IF
YOU LIKE!

WHERE DWELLS
SATAN"... IT
SOUNDS
INTRIGUING...
HOW MUCH DO
YOU WANT
FOR IT?



NOT FOR SALE? THAT'S
VERY GOOD...WELL ALL
RIGHT! WHERE CAN I
GET FOR A WHILE
TO READ IT?

IN THE BACK...
THERE'S A
CHAIR WHERE
YOU CAN RELAX.

VERY CURIOUS...VERY
CURIOUS! THERE'S NO
PRINTING HISTORY...OR
EVEN A PUBLISHER'S
NOTICE...VERY ODD!

Where Dwells Satan

Chapter One

ON A HORRID EVENING OF THE
BLOOD LAST JANUARY THE LOST
SOUL OF ERIC SHORES IS TO BE AVENGED.
THE TWO AVAIT DEATH...DEATH IN ALL
ITS DAMNATION AND GLORY! ONE
ONE MAN...A BEING OF NAUGHT TO
THE NETHERWORLD, BUT A MAN OF THE
EARTH...OF THE FLESH AND BLOOD
OF HUMANITY! ONLY THIS ONE MAN
CAN SAVE THESE TWO.
ELSE...SO SHALL THEIR
SOULS PERISH
FOR ETERNITY!

AND YOU, SIR, YOU ARE
THAT MAN. ONLY YOU
CAN GIVE US FROM
ETERNAL DAMNATION...

WHAT...WHAT ARE YOU
SAYING...WHERE
AM...WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO ME?

YOU HAVE BEEN SENT TO SAVE US...DO YOU
NOT KNOW? IF THIS BLADE STRIKES THE
GIRL...WE ARE BOTH LOST...IF I AM
FORCED TO DRIVE THE BLADE INTO HER!
I CAN NOT CONTROL MY WILL MUCH LONGER
...YOU MUST HELP ME!

A BOOK TO
YOU, PERHAPS.
BUT TO US...
THIS IS VERY
REAL...VERY
REAL!

THIS CAN'T BE
HAPPENING...IT
CAN'T...THIS IS
JUST A BOOK
...ONLY A
HERE BOOK!

BUT HOW CAN
I HELP...
WHAT CAN
I DO?

IT IS WITHIN YOUR POWER TO
REACH MY FATHER IF YOU HURRY!
YOU CAN PREVENT THIS... THIS
MASSACRE OF OUR BLOOD! IF YOU
TELL HIM SIMPLY THIS: 'THE TIME
IS HIGH—GROTON HAS COME AND
IS AT US'. HE IS A HIGH SORCERER
...HE CAN HELP US! BUT YOU MUST
REACH HIM BEFORE LONG OR... IT
WILL BE TOO LATE!

HE SAID I MIGHT FIND HIS FATHER AT WORK
JUST BEYOND THIS FOREST! BUT... THIS IS
SO STRANGE... ALMOST LIKE ONE OF MY
STORIES! CAN IT REALLY BE, THAT MY
DREAMS HAVE COME TRUE? OR THAT THIS
IS A REAL ADVENTURE... OR IS THIS
JUST... A NIGHTMARE?

HE SAID I WOULD
RUN INTO GREAT
DANGERS ON THE
WAY, BUT I DON'T
...EEEAARRH...
WHAT'S THAT...?

A VAMPIRE...
A REAL
VAMPIRE...
AND I'M
HELPLESS!

MY
WALKING
STICK...
PIERCED
HIS HEART

AAAHEEEE!

...IT KILLED
THE VAMPIRE...
JUST LIKE IN
MY STORIES...
HE'S DEAD!



THIS REAL LIFE STUFF
ISN'T AS MUCH FUN AS
JUST TELLING ABOUT
IT... I'M BEGINNING TO
WISH I'D NEVER OPENED
MY MOUTH!

THERE HE IS... THAT MUST BE HIM!
GATHERING HERBS FOR HIS
CONCOCTIONS... JUST LIKE
HIS SON BAIDI!

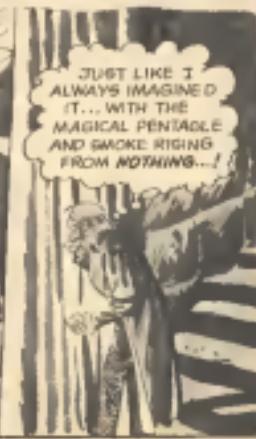
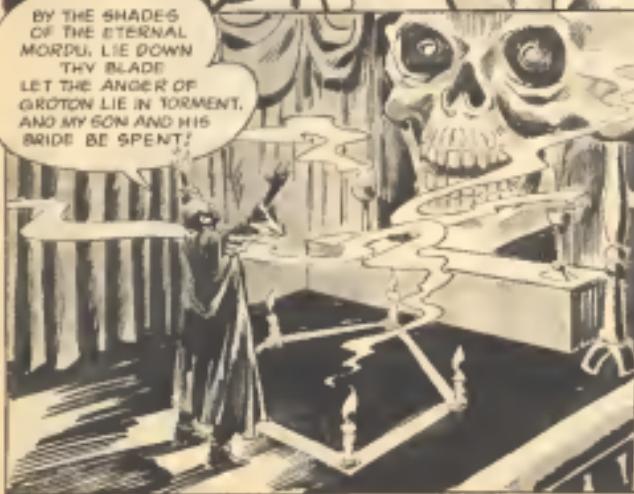
WHO BE YOU... SPEAK
OR YOU'LL BE THE
WORSE OFF FOR YOUR
STUPIDITY!

I'VE COME FROM
YOUR SON... HE'S
IN GREAT DANGER...
HE TOLD ME TO
TELL YOU: 'THE
TIME IS NIGH -
GROTON HAS
COME AND IS
AT US!'

AH SO! YOU'VE DONE WELL
COME WITH ME... QUICKLY...
IF THE SPELL OF
THE EVIL GROTON
IS TO BE
BROKEN OVER
MY SON...
HURRY!

BY THE SHADES
OF THE ETERNAL
MORDU, LIE DOWN
THY BLADE
LET THE ANGER OF
GROTON LIE IN TORMENT,
AND MY SON AND HIS
BRIDE BE SPENT!

JUST LIKE I
ALWAYS IMAGINED
IT... WITH THE
MAGICAL PENTACLE
AND SMOKE RISING
FROM NOTHING...



IT IS DONE...AND
THEY ARE SAFE!
NEVER AGAIN WILL
GROTON BE IN A
POSITION TO
THREATEN US!

BUT WHY? WHAT
HAS HAPPENED, I
KNOW NOTHING
ABOUT THIS AT
ALL...TELL ME!

THREE HUNDRED YEARS...WE HAVE BEEN
TRAPPED! WAITING, ENDLESSLY, FOR A MAN
TO COME FROM THE OTHER WORLD. YOUR
WORLD, WHO COULD HELP US FREE OUR
SOULS FROM GROTON...THE MOST CRUEL
OVERLORD THE VALLEY OF NEDER HAS
EVER EVER KNOWN! YOU CAME...YOU
CAME AND SAVED US!



WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS JUST A DREAM OR IF IT WAS REAL... WHO KNOWS?... BUT I KNOW THIS...



...I'VE HAD MY ADVENTURE! ONE IS ENOUGH FOR ME!



THANK YOU... THANK YOU VERY MUCH, A VERY STRANGE BOOK! HOW DID YOU EVER COME BY IT? WELL, ANYWAY... THANK YOU...



WELL, WE MAY NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF BOOK IT IS... BUT WE DO, DON'T WE, DEAR READER?... ONE OF THOSE TALES OF THE UNIMAGINABLE THAT REALLY GRIPS YOUR IMAGINATION AWAY TO ANOTHER WORLD, EH?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR OL' UNCLE... I THINK HE'S HAD ENOUGH ADVENTURE FOR ONE LIFETIME... AND HE'S HAPPY NOW; THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR... JUST TO MAKE AN IN-LAW A LITTLE HAPPIER! ANYWAY, NOW YOU KNOW WHY I COULDN'T SELL HIM THAT BOOK; WHERE DO YOU THINK I GET ALL MY STORIES FOR MY OWN RAG SERIE...HEH HEH... OUT OF AN OLD BOOK OR SOMETHING?





HILL! HILL! HILL!

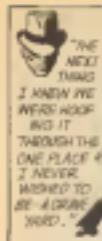
THIS WAS THE OBNOXIOUS WORD THAT WRACKED THIEF JOEY CRANE'S TORNED ANIMD DROVE HIM TO TAKE A HUMAN LIFE EVERY DAY! FOR HE HAD BARTERED INTO A MOST BIZARRE BUSINESS DEAL... AND IF HE FAILED TO FULFILL THE CONTRACT, HIS OWN LIFE WOULD BE FORFEIT!

C.O.D.-COLLECT ON DEATH!

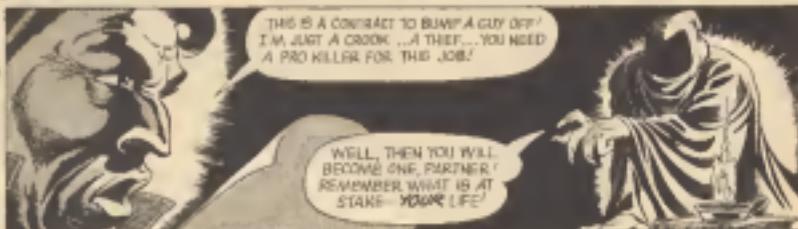
ART BY DAVE COCKRUM/STORY BY DAVE WOOD







"THAT'S
WHEN HE
WANT ME
WITH HIS BIG
GUNMAN
AND I
DON'T
WANT
ANY PART
OF IT..."







AND SO THE FRUSTRATED JOEY RUSHED TO HIS GIRL FRIEND'S HOME WHERE HIS TALE OF WOE FELL ON DEAF EARS.





GUILT AND FEAR RADED TABOUSH JOEY'S MIND THAT EVENING AS HE PONDERED HIS FATE...



JOEY'S CAR KICKED UP DUST AS HE SPED EAGERLY TOWARDS HIS QUARRY.







IT'S SCIENCE FICTION
TIME, BEAST BROTHER...
BUT DON'T THINK YOU'LL SET
OFF THE HORROR HORN! HERE
WE HAVE A FEAR FROLIC
THAT'S GUARANTEED TO LEAVE YOU
WITH A SINKING SENSATION!



THE WATER WORLD!

WORDLESSLY, THEY
WATCHED THE STAR-
SHIP SINK INTO THE
SHATTERED MIRROR-
FACE OF THE OCEAN!
IN A MOMENT, THEY WOULD BE ALONE,
COMPLETELY ALONE! THE RESCUE
WOULD BE A LONG TIME IN COMING.
UNTIL THEN, SURVIVAL WOULD NOT
BE EASY ON...

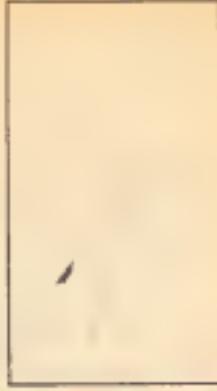


METAL BULKHEADS GROANED LIKE DYING MEN!
WATER BOILED BELCHED SKYWARD! THE STAR-
SHIP GAWAIN' WENT UNDER THE SEA...

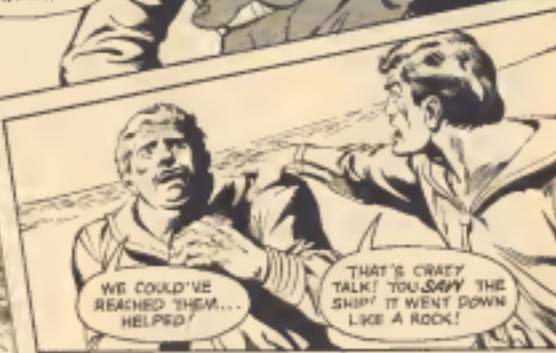


... BUT DID NOT PASS FROM VIEW!

MR. SIVERSON!
LOOK... LOOK
THERE!



THE SAWAN BECOME A CRUMPLED TOY,
THEN BURNED AND VANISHED INTO DEPTHS TOO
DEEP FOR SUNLIGHT TO PENETRATE...





THE WIND CAME, FILLING THE SAIL, SHOVING THEM WESTWARD OVER ENDLESS MILES AFTER MILES OF ROLLING WATER! DAY AND NIGHTS CAME, WEEKS PASSED, ALL WITHOUT SIGHT OF...



EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING, A GUNSHOT
SHATTERED SIVERSON'S UNEASY SLEEP...

A DOZEN FEET BELOW THE GLASSY SURFACE OF
THE OCEAN, ARTHUR BEDFORD'S BODY WAS CLEARLY
VISIBLE...

OLIE? WHAT--?

IT'S BEDFORD!
HE'S IN THE WATER!

WE CAN
STILL REACH HIM,
MR SIVERSON!

NO REASON TO!
HE'S DEAD! NOTHING
WE CAN DO FOR HIM!

THE DAY PASSED SLOWLY! BEDFORD DRIFTED PHANTOM-LIKE (BELOW THE
RAFT, SINKING SLOWLY INTO THE DEEP! SHORTLY, BEFORE THE
WINDLESS EVENING, HIS DOLL-LIKE BODY DISAPPEARED
INTO THE GLOOM AND WAS NOT SEEN AGAIN...



BUT THE FOLLOWING DAY DID NOT BRING HOPE-
LESSNESS, DESPITE BEDFORD'S SUICIDE...

YOU SEE THEM NOW? DON'T
YOU, OLIE? IF WE CAN CATCH
ONE...

FOOD!

WHATEVER
THEY ARE, I'LL
EAT THEM!

YET, AFTER AN HOUR OF TENSE EXPECTATION...

THEY...
THEY
[SOB'S]
WON'T TAKE
THE BAIT!

DAMN! THEY'RE
DRIFTING AWAY!



THE NEXT MORNING, OLLIE DENTON WAS DEAD...



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, THE SUN SEEMED HOTTER, THE SEA CHAMFER THAN EVER! AT THE OTHER END OF THE RAFT, OLLIE'S BODY REMAINED AND TURNED BLACK...



THE NEXT DAY, AN ANSWER CAME TO SIVERSON...



AND SUDENLY, HIS PRAYER WAS ANSWERED! THE FISH WERE THERE AGAIN, DEEP DOWN WHERE THE WATER WAS COOL! BUT COULD THEY BE CAUGHT?



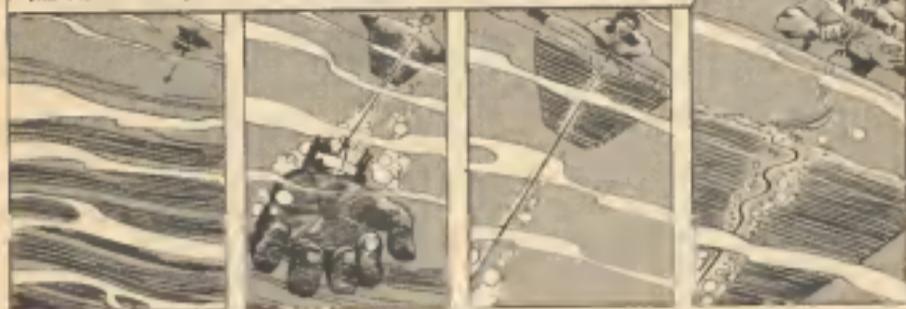
SIVERSON FRANTICALLY CUT AND SAWED AWAY... IGNORING THE PUTRID GODD THAT ROSE UP TO ENVELOP HIM...



THE LINE BROKE THE SURFACE, PLUNGEDED DOWN THROUGH INVISIBLE CURRENTS, DOWN TO WHERE THE FISHES LAY AS IF IN MAGICAL SUSPENSION...



THE FISH CAME UP, THROUGH WATER BRIGHT AND CLEAR AS CRYSTAL...



...WATER SO CLEAR, A MAN MIGHT SEE AN OBJECT HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW AND, BECAUSE IT WAS SO FAR AWAY, IMAGINE IT WAS SMALL! AN EASY ENOUGH MISTAKE TO MAKE IN WATER SO CLEAR... AND STEVENS HAD JUST MADE IT...





THE LAND WAS GIVEN TO
DARKNESS... ALL THE
BOUNDS OF HEAVEN AND
HELL WERE LOOSED
THIS NIGHT...



HE CRIED ALOUD, I AM AFIRE WITHIN.
THERE CAME NO MURMUR OF REPLY.
IS THERE NONE TO REMOVE MY SIN
BEFORE I DIE... I DIE...

DEATH OF THE GARGOYLE

BY PAT BOYETTE



BUT IN DARK CORNERS OF THE PALACE STOOD
UNANSWERING SHAPES AND UNAWARES
THESE PHANTOMS WEPPING TEARS OF BLOOD
AND HORRIBLE NIGHTMARES...



SOON TO BE SHUT IN MOLTING GROUND
WITH BLACKNESS AS A SOLID WALL...
HE SEEMED TO HEAR THE SOUND
OF UNBARTHLY FOOTSTEPS FALL...

WHO...WHO
IS HERE?

<img alt="A black and white comic strip in a medieval setting. Panel 1: A man in a tattered robe stands in a doorway, looking at another man who is kneeling on the ground. Panel 2: The kneeling man is holding a staff and looking up at the standing man. Panel 3: The kneeling man is speaking to the standing man. Panel 4: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 5: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 6: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 7: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 8: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 9: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 10: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 11: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 12: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. Panel 13: The kneeling man is shown in a close-up, holding a skull. 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Panel 2: I HAVE NOT THE BOOK!

Panel 3: AYE! SO THEN IT IS TRUE... MERLIN THE WISE HAS NOW BECOME MERLIN THE FOOL!

Panel 4: NO...MERLIN...THE MAN! FOR MORE THAN A HUNDRED YEARS I HAVE FOLLOWED THE GLEAM AND MY COURSE HAS NEVER FALTERED!

Panel 5: FROM THE MOMENT MY MOTHER SUBMITTED TO THE SUPERIOR WILL OF MY DEMON SIRE...I HAVE NEVER WAVERED IN MY DEDICATION TO ENHOBLE THE LIFE OF THE WORLD!

Panel 6: AND WHEN THE LAND OF CAMELIARD WAS WASTE, THICK WITH WET WOODS AND THERE WERE NONE TO CHASE THE BEASTS THAT WALLLOWED IN THE GARDENS OF THE KING, IT WAS I WHO WISHED THE STAFF...

Panel 7: 29

AND, IT WAS I WHO LIFTED OUR CHAMPION, ARTHUR PENDRAGON FROM THE BOILING, FLAMING SEA AND LED HIM TO THE THRONE...

AYE! AND IT WAS YOU WHO THIS DAY FAILED HIM! EVEN NOW, THE BELOVED ARTHUR LIES MORTALLY WOUNDED!

NO! THIS CANNOT BE!



THIS IS TRUTH!
REVENGE HAS
GUIDED THE
ASSASSIN'S
BLADE AND
THE KING IS
DYING...



THIS HAPPENED BECAUSE LOYAL MERLIN WAS NOT THERE WITH HIS SHIELD OF PROTECTION!

AND WHERE WAS THIS DEPENDABLE MERLIN? LIKE A LONELY BOY, HE WAS RUSHING TO THE ARMS OF A WITCH...



AND WHAT FOUND YE, MERLIN? A TENDER VESSEL OF LOVE, A DELICATE HONEY-SPEWING APHID TRAPPED IN THE STRENGTH OF YOUR HUNGRY ARMS?

OR DID YOUR GREAT AWARENESS PREVAIL AND YOUR FAILING EYES PIERCE THE BEGUILING TO REVEAL YOUR LADY LOVE TO BE NOT A MAIDEN AT ALL BUT A MESMERIZING DEMON?



TORMENT, YOU'F NAY... I HAVE RETURNED FOR THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE, BUT YOU SAY YOU HAVE IT NOT!



YOU HAVE GIVEN IT TO THE MAIDEN!

YES!

THEN THIS IS FAREWELL, MERLIN!
YOUR SERVICE TO BRITON IS
DONE! I LEAVE YOU NOW TO
THE ENEMY YOU HAVE EMBRACED!

FOR THE FIRST TIME TERROR GRIPS MERLIN'S HEART,
FOR HE KNOWS THAT HIS LOYAL MENTOR, BLEYS,
WOULD NOT RETURN FROM THE GRAVE TO CAST IDLE ACCUSATIONS!



LIGHTNING AND
PANIC EXPLODE
IN BRILLIANT
BURSTS OF
FIRE AS MERLIN
SEEKS A COVER
OF DARKNESS!

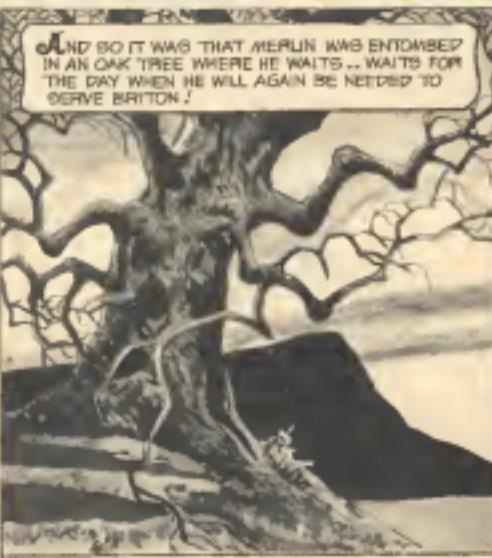
BUT, HE KNOWS
HIS FLIGHT IS
FUTILE... HIS FATE
IS SET....



... AND HE ALSO
KNOWS THAT HIS
OPENED EYES
CAN NO LONGER
SEE BEAUTY WHERE
THERE IS ONLY
HIDEOUS OBSCENITY

CAN YOU
NOT LOOK
AT ME,
MERLIN?





IT'S EXPERIMENTATION TIME, GHOULISH GROUPIES! EVER START ONE OF OUR STARTLING STORIES AND FIND YOU'D GUessed THE ENDING? PRETTY DISAPPOINTING, HUH? WELL, WITH THE VIVID VIGNETTE THAT FOLLOWS, WE MAY HAVE SOLVED THAT PROBLEM . BECAUSE IT'S GOT THREE ENDINGS, AND WE'RE BETTING AT LEAST ONE OF THEM IS GOING TO SHOCK EVEN THE SHREWDEST OF YOU SHRIEK-SEEKERS IN THIS TRIPLE-TURNED TALE THAT LETS YOU REAP A



ART BY FRANK BRUNNER/STORY BY PHIL SEULING

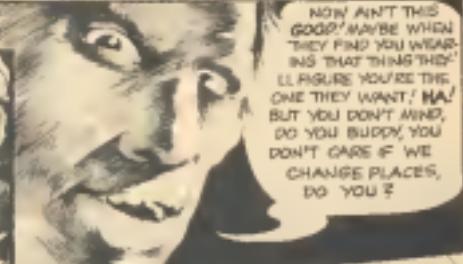
THE MENACING SHAPE DOES NOT MOVE...
IT ONLY WAITS...

A... SCARE-
CROW! HA HA
IT'S ONLY A
SCARECROW!



THE TERRIBLE THING HE HAD DONE, THAT HE WAS BEING
TRACKED AND HUNTED FOR HAD LEFT STAINS ON FRANK
WEST, DARK RED STAINS THAT WERE THEIR OWN CON-
FESSION, HE STRIPPED OFF THE BLOODY SHIRT FROM HIM
AND BEHIND THE PALE RISING MOON EXCHANGED
WITH THE SILENT GUARDIAN OF THE FIELDS!

THE CHANGE OF GARMENTS SEEM TO ADD BACKBONE
TO HIM HE EVEN MANAGED A SOMEWHAT DISTORTED SMILE



IF THE SCARECROW
HAD AN ANSWER, HE
KEPT IT TO HIMSELF.
THE QUIET OF THE
FIELDS REMAINED
UNBROKEN...



MORE LIKE AN ANIMAL THAN LIKE A MAN, WEST MOVED OFF INTO THE FIELDS, STILL HUNTED BY HIS PURSUITERS AND HIS OWN FEARS!



JUST GOT TO KEEP GOING UNTIL DAWN... GRAB A TRAIN AT THE FREIGHT YARDS... HEY, WHAT'S...?



NOTHING! NOTHING THERE! BUT I COULD'VE SWORN SOMETHING GRABBED AT ME! HUH WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!



SOMETHING PULLS AT HIS CLOTHING, BUT WHEN HE LOOKS AROUND...

BEHIND HIM IN THE NIGHT THERE IS THE VERY DISTANT SOUND OF DOGS BARKING! BUT CLOSER, MUCH NEARER THERE IS A RUSTLING SOUND! THERE! AGAIN!

FRIGHTENED ALERTED WEST TURNED AND RAN INTO THE DARKNESS BEFORE HIM OMNIOUS AND EERIE BENEATH THE GHASTLY MOON, THE MORNING SEEMED YEARS AWAY!

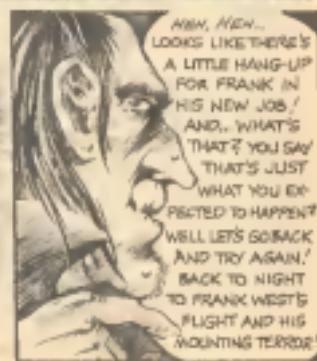
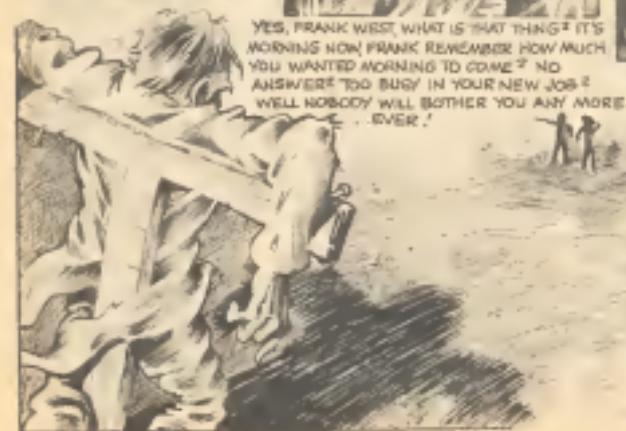


AGAIN HE FELT TUGGING AT HIS CLOTHES, BUT NOW HE WOULD NOT, COULD NOT STOP!



COULD HE STILL HEAR THAT RUSTLING SOUND? MAYBE HE COULD IF HE WOULD LISTEN IF HE WOULD PAUSE

BRIGHT MORNING CAME TO THE FIELDS AND SOON THERE AROSE THE SOUNDS OF MEN'S ACTIVITY, THE HARVEST CREW MOVED THROUGH THE FIELD, FOLLOWING THE MOWERS, REAPERS AND BALING MACHINES WHICH WERE CONVERTING STANDING CROPS INTO FOOD SUPPLIES TO BE SHIPPED OR STORED.



YES, FRANK WEST, WHAT IS THAT THING? IT'S MORNING NOW, FRANK. REMEMBER HOW MUCH YOU WANTED MORNING TO COME? NO ANSWERS? TOO BUSY IN YOUR NEW JOB? WELL, NOBODY WILL BOTHER YOU ANY MORE... EVER!

UGH, UGH... LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A LITTLE HANG-UP FOR FRANK IN HIS NEW JOB! AND... WHAT'S THAT? YOU SAY THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU EXPECTED TO HAPPEN? WELL, LET'S GO BACK AND TRY AGAIN! BACK TO NIGHT TO FRANK WEST'S FLIGHT AND HIS MOUNTING TERROR!

SUDDENLY AND WITH STUNNING IMPACT HE CRASHES IN-
TO SOMETHING IN THE DARKNESS!

THROUGH A VEIL OF SWEAT AND PAIN, GASPING AIR INTO HIS
LUNGS, WEST LOOKS UP AT WHAT HE
HAS ENCOUNTERED!



MORNING...

SHERIFF! THEY FOUND HIM! THEY FOUND HIM OVER THERE!

WELL, I'LL BE A SON OF A GUN, I FIGURED WE LOST HIM BY THIS TIME HE SHOULD'VE BEEN ON A TRAIN AND GONE!

TAKE YOUR TIME SAM! HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE! LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN RUNNING ALL NIGHT BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH!

NOW WHY? WHY WOULD ANYONE DO SUCH A FOOL THING?



THEY LOOKED AT FRANK WEST, BROKEN IN MIND AND BODY, WHO GIBBERED AND SOBBED BEFORE THEM, WONDERING WHY HE HAD BLUNDERED INTO THIS BACK YARD GARDEN, AND ABOVE ALL, WHY DIDN'T HE GET OUT? THEY WOULD NEVER FIND OUT!



Poor Frank! Looks like sheer fear cost him his sense of direction... of course thinking those two scarecrows were the same one probably helped! Did it help keep you guessing? **Not**? Well, you've got one more chance wise guy, don't blow it!

IN THE BLACKNESS WHICH PRESSES IN ON HIM, WEST SEES
THROUGH HIS OWN TERROR THE SHAPE OF THE SCARE-
CROW! IS IT MOVING? IS IT COMING TOWARD HIM?



AND NOW THE MOON COMES OUT FROM
BEHIND A CLOUD, AND FRANK WEST
SEES THE LAST THING HE EVER SEES!

IN THE MORNING...

WEEL HE'S GONE!
MUST HAVE MADE
THAT TRAIN AFTER ALL. DURNEST LOOKIN'
NOTHING IN THESE
FIELDS BUT THAT
SCARECROW!

DURNEST LOOKIN'
SCARECROW I EVER SAW
TOO! WEIRD, I CALL IT!
WEIRD!



HEMMIN' ...
COMING FACE TO
FACE WITH HORROR
SEEMS TO HAVE
COST FRANK HIS/
WELL, THAT'S THE
CROW'S PROBLEM
NOW! OURS IS
SEEMS IF THIS
FINALLY GOT YOU
NO? WELL
THERE'S A FOWARD
ENDING FOR YOU
CREEPS! .. WAIT
TILL IT'S DARK
AND THEN GO TO
THIS CORNFIELD
WE KNOW ABOUT...



PROLOGUE:

NO, FATHER, IT IS YOUR LOT TO HAVE EVER BEEN A SERF.

BUT IT SHALL NOT BE MINE!

BUT, MY SON,
YOU WERE BORN A SERF. IT IS YOUR FATE!

NO! I SHALL TAKE A STEED! I SHALL RIDE FAR AND JOIN THE WARRIORS OF THE SWEDES!... THIS IS THE LIFE I SEEK!

BUT YOU HAVE NOT A STEED! YET YOU PLAN SUCH AS THIS? OF WHAT DO YOU TRULY SPEAK?



HE DID NOT ANSWER HIS FATHER, BUT RATHER THAT NIGHT, NEAR THE GREAT HALL OF HIS RULING THANE...



THUS WAS HE CAUGHT... AND SOON THEREUPON HE WAS BROUGHT TO THE GREAT COUNCIL HALL AND DID STAND BEFORE HIS THANE...



ACROSS THE ANGRY SEA DID COME THE PROUD SHIP OF THE VIKING WARRIOR...

the Dragon Prow!

YOUNG WEOLAC, BORN A SERF, HAD EVER WISHED FOR FREEDOM AND POWER AND WHEN SUCH WAS DENIED HIM,.. WHEN HIS DESIRES BROUGHT NAUGHT BUT BANISHMENT, HE SOUGHT THEN ONLY REVENGE!

THE YOUNG WEOLAC WAS TAKEN BEYOND THE BORDER OF THE THANE DOM, AND LATER, AS HE DID WALK HERE, HE WAS SET UPON BY THE WARRIOR OF THE SEA...



A BANISHED GEAT! HE BE YOUNG, LOOKS STRONG. HE SHALL MAKE A GOOD GARSMAN!



AND THIS WAS THE YOUNG GEAR, TAKEN ABOARD THE GREAT DRAGON-PROW, AND THERE WAS CHAINED IN HIS PLACE AMONG THE OTHER OARS MEN...



... FELT NAUGHT BUT THE STRAIN IN THE MUSCLES OF HIS ARMS... AND THE SHARP PAIN AS LEATHER CUT DEEP INTO HIM, WHENEVER HE DID SLACKEN HIS PACE...

AND AS THE DAYS DID PASS, WEHLAC HEARD NAUGHT BUT THE GROANS OF THE MEN, THE CREAKING OF THE OARS AND THE PERSISTANT THROBBING BEAT OF THE CADENCE THAT THE OARSMEN WERE TO FOLLOW...



AND THUS DID THE GEAR BECOME NUMB, NO LONGER DID HE OFTEN SLACKEN HIS PACE. HE DID SEEM DESIGNED TO DO AS THE WARRIOR'S WISH... WHILE HIS MIND WAS ON BUT ONE WISH...



THEN ONE DAY WAS THE PROUD SHIP CAUGHT IN A GREAT STORM... AND IT DID TOSS THE SHIP ABOUT WITHOUT MERCY...



AND THE CADENCE THE OARSMEN WERE TO FOLLOW DID SLOW LOUDER, FASTER... AND THE OARSMEN DID TRUELY STRAIN TO THE UTMOST...





BUT SUCH WAS TO NO AVAIL FOR THE GREAT STORM DID SOON THROW THE PROUD SHIP UPON GREAT ROCKS THAT DID LAY NEAR A SHORE...



AND WATER DID RUSH INTO THE GALLEY... AND IT DID SEEM CERTAIN THAT THE CHAINED CARS MEN WOULD SOON DROWN...

YET, THE FATES HAD NOT DROWNED THAT YOUNG WOHLAC SHOULD DIE, AND THUS HAD THE GREAT ROCK CUT THROUGH THE CHAINS THAT WERE FASTENED TO HIS ARMS...



MAYHAP THIS STORM SHALL LET ME ESCAPE FROM THESE WARRIORS!



AND AS THE YOUNG SEAT DID THEN STEP UPON THE DECK OF THE GREAT SHIP HE DID SEE ONE OF THE WARRIORS WHO HAD FOR SO LONG ENSLAVEO HIM... AND AGAIN WERE HIS THOUGHTS OF REVENGE...





AND THUS DID WEOLAC HIT THE VIKING
WITH SUCH FORCE THAT BOTH WERE CARRIED
OVER THE RAIL OF THE SHIP...

...AND INTO THE SEA! NO LONGER DID HE
THINK OF HIMSELF, HIS ONLY THOUGHT WAS
THAT THE ARMOR OF THE WARRIOR WOULD
CARRY HIS ENEMY DOWN DEEP INTO DEATH!



YET DID THE WARRIOR GRAB ONTO THE GEAT...
AND THUS WAS THE YOUNG WEOLAC ALSO
CARRIED DEEP...



AND WHEN HE DID AWAKE, HE FOUND THAT HE
DID LIE UPON A BEACH, WHERE ALSO DID LIE
THE VIKING HE HAD FOUGHT...

STRAINING TO BREAK FREE, THE GEAT DID
GROW WEAKER, HIS LUNGS DID ACHE...

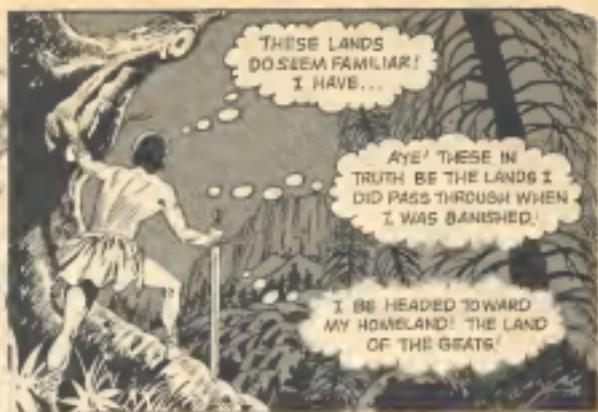


AND AT LENGTH DID HE ENTER,
THE WORLD OF HIS DREAMS...



HE BE
DEAD!





THEN, AS HE DID WALK WITH DETERMINED STEPS, THERE DID COME A THROBBING IN HIS MIND... AND IT WAS LIKE THE CADENCE BEAT OUT ABOARD THE GREAT DRAGON-PRIDE



AND AS HE DID QUIETLY APPROACH THE KING, THE THROBBING WITHIN HIS MIND BECAME LOUDER, FASTER. AND IT WAS LIKE THE DRAGON-PROW PASSING THROUGH THE STORM...



But the King did not fall, and the young goat did again thrust forth the blade, but though it did pass through the King, yet was he unharmed. And then did the arm of Weohlac also pass through.



THEN DID HE THRUST
FORTH THE BLADE...



AND THE YOUNG BEAT
DO THEY REALIZE



AND WITHIN HIS MIND DID THE THROBBING CONTINUE! AND IT DID BECOME THE LAUGHTER OF THE FATES! THEY HAD BROUGHT HIM CLOSE TO VICTORY THAT THEN HIS DEFEAT WOULD CUT THAT MUCH DEEPER...

AND THE THROBBING DID GROW LOUDER AND FASTER,
AS THOUGH TO DRIVE HIM INTO MADNESS! AND HE DID
CRY OUT FOR HELP! BUT NO ONE WAS THERE TO HEAR
HIM... FOR HE WAS DEAD!



POOR WECHLAC!
I SUPPOSE HE STILL
HAS A *GHOST* OF A
CHANCE FOR HIS
VENGEANCE... BUT
UNFORTUNATELY
THE GHOST IS
HIM!

PUZZLING MONSTERS



SO YOU THINK
YOU KNOW
OUR ARTISTS,
EH???

WHO DREW WHAT?

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO FINISHING THIS ISSUE . . . OUR ILLUSTRIOUS ILLUSTRATORS WERE KIDNAPPED AND FORCED TO SPEND THE NIGHT UNDER THE LOCAL CEMETERY, WHERE, UNDER PENALTY OF HAVING THEIR BLOOD RE-Routed, THEY WERE FORCED TO DRAW A PORTRAIT OF THEIR HOST!

HERE ARE THOSE GREAT SKETCHES . . . CAN YOU PICK OUT (BY THEIR STYLES) EXACTLY WHICH ARTIST DREW WHICH PORTRAIT?

FOR ANSWERS, TURN TO CREEPY PAN CARD ON FOLLOWING PAGE





The CREEPY FAN CLUB

THE LESSON By Billy Ward

Darkness lowered over the small New England town as reporter Ed Collier was returning to his home after what he considered to be a very interesting interview. "What did that guy ask?" he tried to remember. "Oh yeah, the legend of Mr. Peterson. Why did Green, that story editor, want to have me come to him with the task? How could I possibly know? And Ed was tired and only wanted to hurry home.

It was at that moment he

first noticed the lone figure turning the corner. Collier started because he was glad to have some company, even a stranger. Something made his muscles tense, however, as he stared at the man intently. There was an eerie air about this man that gave Ed Collier that sudden feeling of dread. "I'm not afraid of you," he said. "Perhaps I would be better off crossing the street." He began to cross. The strange man also started to cross. Suddenly Collier turned and ran, his back to the man. He ran as fast as he could, then fell in an over of bushes. Ed Collier moaned.

Collier was undoubtedly horrified. "Oh my god, a vampire!" he shrieked. "It

wasn't possible!" He fought wildly, trying to force the creature off. He finally broke free and ran for a church on the corner with the beast closing behind him. He reached the door and ran in and shut the doors. "He won't come in here. Now, what did old Professor Clement say? Oh yeah, a stake through the heart. I'll have to do that once more. I'll have to go it. I have to. Collier took a fast look around the church, and then gazed full upon the large wooden crucifix at the bottom of one of the statues. He grabbed one end, sharpened it on the hard concrete floor, then threw the wooden cross at the creature. Collier skinned the cross over his head. The sight of the cross sent the vampire

retreating back. Ed advanced on it and thrust the pointed side into the beast's chest causing blood to gush wildly from the open wound and from its mouth. The creature moaned once, then fell in its own river of blood. Ed Collier moaned.

"I will never again doubt an other man's worth without just cause," he said. "I will never have to go it. I have to. Collier said my life. I won't forget it. EVER!" For as he looked at the dying creature trying to speak, the last words began to seep into his mind. "I don't know if the interview he was sending me on would kill him, too."

THE GRAVEKEEPER

By Denise Keypar

In midnight at the graveyard
Why do you do this job?
For I am a grave keeper
No diggers can rob
I hate to walk around the yard...

Monder at every sound
What's that comming else
Like the skull I had found
Did I see that grave really
move?

Are the bats just plain bats
Or do they have wings in them
This place just crawls with rats
The gravekeepers ask
such questions

END



The above illustration was sent in by Harry Ghenie of Lemont, IL. It appears as though some vampires were just meant for each other.



Edgar Mazzoni and Daniel Smeddy combined their talents and rendered this bit of art for our Creepy pages.



Randy Williams of Liberty, N. C. contributed the very artistic rendering of "THE FACE OF LEGEIA" (above left). It's Randy's adaptation of E. A. Poe's short story "Ligeia".

THE YEAR 2000

By Mark Rose

There is only darkness. Not a hint of light, not a speck of the earth. Where has man gone? What has happened to all their accomplishments and power? Consider that man's race may have wiped out by an atomic war or have they gone to another planet better than ours? The sky that was full of life, the sun, the stars, the moon, have they all gone, where are they now, are questions I can't answer. In our great galaxy there are many stars, some are the suns largest and most powerful giver of light and warmth but has been destroyed. The evolution of man is over. Never again will man be the life of the earth. What has happened to them is a question that will never be an answer. Now even I am glazing. This is the end.

THE VOICE OF DEATH

By Wm. Buchan

"The cold is getting stronger. I can feel it in my fingers causing my shivering body. Am I the only living thing left on this earth? Is the whole world dead? I don't think not. I mean, I can't reach the radio. A voice. A VOICE! Good heavens, that's no human voice. Is the voice of death? Death, awaiting the last human from the earth. The cause? A dying star always loses heat before it turns into a nova.

LITTLE MISS MUFFET

By John Lehr

Little Miss Muffet
Sits on her tuffet
A very unwise thing to do
For Diaoula sent her
A spider with a sharp fang
Now Muffet's a vampire, too.



Send us your short stories, (100 words, or less) poems, drawings and sketches (preferably in black ink) and we'll print as many as we possibly can.

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ANSWERS TO

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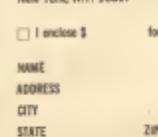


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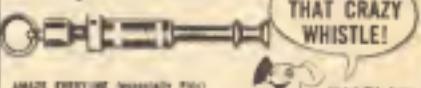
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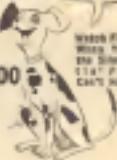
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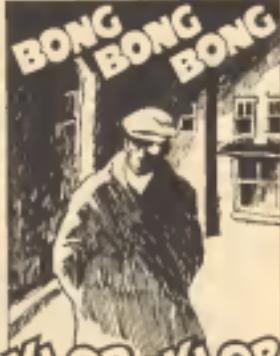
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PROLOGUE: WITH EVENING, BLACKNESS DROPPED ACROSS THE COLD ENGLISH COASTAL TOWN. GUSTS OF ICY WIND BLASTED THROUGH DESERTED STREETS AND ALLEYS.

A WITHERED FIGURE REPARTED FROM A LITTLE SHOP ON ST JOHN STREET, WALKING SLOWLY THROUGH THE DARK.



THE CHURCH BELL TOLLED THE HOUR. IT WAS LATE, HE THOUGHT, TOO LATE FOR AN OLD MAN ALONE ON THIS SIDE OF TOWN! ESPECIALLY TONIGHT! ESPECIALLY FOR HIM! ESPECIALLY...



KLOP-KLOP-KLOP-KLOP-KLOP-KLOP-KLOP





NO ONE REALLY KNEW HOW MAD JACK HAD GOTTEN THAT NAME—
FOR WHILE HE MAY HAVE BEEN A BIT CRAZY, HE SEEMED AS SANE
AS ANY OF THEM— JACK'S GANG OR

MAD JACK'S GIRL



WHEN DAWN BROKE, CYCLES WERE ALREADY GATHERING OUTSIDE THE USUAL TRUCKSTOP.

INSIDE, THE USUAL CROWD CHATTERED AND SHOUTED AND SMOKED OVER THE FIRST CUP OF THE MORNING.



STILL, JACK, I WISH
YOU'D TAKE A JOB AT THAT
NEW FACTORY!



BE-YOU-KNOW-RESPECTABLE!

SOT
I GOT LUCK WITH
CARDS! THAT ANT
RESPECTABLE?



—LUCK WITH CARDS?



JACK, VERY SELDOM WON AT CARDS...

UNLESS IT BECAME A BRAVU...

WITH KNIVES AND CHINS!



I'LL LET YOU OFF HERE!
GOT SOME BUSINESS TO
ATTEND. I'LL DROP IN ON
YOU ABOUT TEN!



STAY OUT OF
TROUBLE, LOVE!



JACK ALWAYS HAD DIFFICULTY AVOIDING TROUBLE!

AND THIS DAY WOULD BE NO EXCEPTION!



BREAKING INTO THE HOUSE WAS EASY!

THEY HAD THE EXPERIENCE GAINED FROM OVER A DOZEN OTHER JOBS!





THE JOB FINISHED, THE TROUBLE WROUGHT TO BEGIN!



PULLING A KNIFE ON MAD JACK WAS A FOOLISH MOVE, BUT THE FIGHT WOULD NOT LAST LONG! NOT LONG AT ALL!



JACK WAS STILL NERVOUS WHEN HE STOPPED BY ALICE'S PLACE THAT NIGHT



BUT, LOOKING INTO THE SPARE ROOM...



HE WAS GREETED BY A MOST CURIOUS SIGHT, AND THE STENCH OF DECEY!

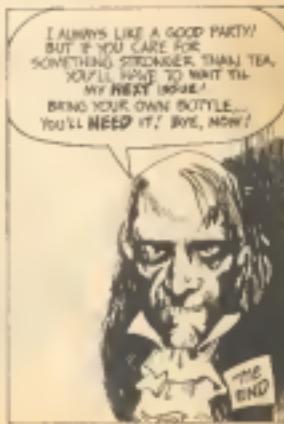




MOVING BEHIND JACK, BURNING WITH ANGER, SHE RAISED AN IRON TORCH AND...



LATER ALICE RAISED THE BODY TO A CHAIR, SEATING IT AT THE TABLE!





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